



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

1/1
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/330,651 | 06/11/1999 | CONNIE T. MARSHALL | ODS-5 | 9681 |

7590 04/23/2003

MATTHEW T BYRNE
FISH & NEAVE
1251 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK, NY 100201104

EXAMINER

CHRISTMAN, KATHLEEN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3713

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2003

19

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

JC

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Offic Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 09/330,651 | MARSHALL ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Kathleen M Christman | 3713 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/28/2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13, 15-28 and 30-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-4, 10-13, 15-19, 25-28 and 30-34 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 5-9 and 20-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 3713

DETAILED ACTION

In response to election filed 02/28/2003, claims 1-13, 15-28, and 30-34 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election of Group II (claims 5-9 and 20-24 in Paper No. 18 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)). Hence the restriction is proper and is **FINAL**.
2. Claims 1-4, 10-13, 15-19, 25-28 and 30-34 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected Group, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without traverse** in Paper No. 18.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 5, 7, 20, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mir et al (US 6450887 B1). Regarding claim 5, Mir et al teaches a method which includes displaying a wager input interface for creating a wager on a horse race having a plurality of wager requirement and a plurality of selectable options for each of the wager requirements, wherein the wager requirements are displayed so

Art Unit: 3713

that each wager requirement is substantially aligned in a first dimension, and wherein the plurality of selectable option for each of the plurality of wager requirements is substantially aligned in a second dimension with each corresponding one of the plurality of wager requirements. See Figure 4, where the “\$” symbol and “Pool” represent the wager requirements and “\$1”, “\$2”, etc. and “Win”, “Place”, “Show”, etc. represent the selectable options associate with the requirements. Receiving user inputs and using these inputs to select on of the plurality of selectable options for each of the plurality of wager requirements, as in claim 7, are inherent features. Claims 20 and 22 correspond to a system of similar scope to claims 5 and 7, respectively, and are rejected for the same reasons.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 6, 8, 9, 21, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of WO/9709699 and Mir et al (US 6450887 B1). '699 teaches a system and method for interactive wagering that includes the user selection requirements of track selection, race selection, wager type selection, horse selection, and amount selection (claims 6 and 21) in figures 35-38, user inputs being used to select at least one of the plurality of options for each of the user selection requirements (claims 7 and 22) also in the above figures, the selected option being highlighted (claims 8 and 23) on page 25 line 21+ and a ticket window that indicates each of the plurality of options selected (claims 9 and 24) in figure 39. '699 does not teach the specific lay out as claimed by applicant. Mir et al discloses this layout in Figure 4. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the layout of the '699 publication with the layout as disclosed by Mir et al to allow for faster entry of

Art Unit: 3713

wagering information. Additionally, the specific choice of layouts for an interface is a design choice and does not detract from the function or scope of an invention.

Response to Arguments

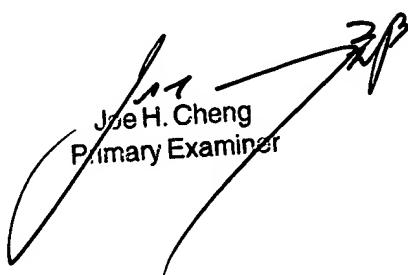
7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 5-9 and 20-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kathleen M Christman whose telephone number is (703) 308-6374. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Valencia Martin-Wallace can be reached on (703) 308-4119. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9302 for regular communications and (703) 872-9303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.


Kathleen M. Christman
April 17, 2003


Joe H. Cheng
Primary Examiner